

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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General Counsel

21 January 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the President  
for National Security Affairs

FROM: Daniel B. Silver  
General Counsel

SUBJECT: Protection of Intelligence Information  
and Classified Information

1. Frank Carlucci has asked that I prepare and send to you a draft document embodying some principles the incoming Administration could adopt to ensure better protection of classified information and intelligence information than heretofore has been the case, in other words, to try to deal with the "leaks" problem. There are a variety of ways this could be handled. I think the most effective would be the prompt issuance by President Reagan of a memorandum to the heads of all Executive departments and agencies establishing the broad lines of policies in this area and requiring that all necessary steps be taken to implement these policies. Attached is a draft of such a memorandum. It represents only my personal views and has not been coordinated with Mr. Casey.

2. If the memorandum were issued, subsequent action would include revision as necessary of the existing Executive Orders on information security and classification, as well as certain other Executive Orders and Presidential decisions. Revision of these documents is likely to be time-consuming. In my opinion, the effectiveness of a new initiative against leaks would be enhanced greatly if the incoming Administration moved quickly. That is why I think a Presidential memorandum, which can be issued promptly, is the best course.

3. If such a memorandum were issued, it probably should contain an additional paragraph assigning responsibility to someone in the White House to oversee its implementation and requiring department and agency heads to report the steps they are taking within a specified, brief period.

4. I would be happy to discuss this matter further with you or members of your staff at your convenience.

/s/ Daniel B. Silver

Daniel B. Silver

Attachment

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